

MILPERSMAN 1306-500

NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING PROGRAM

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1. **Purpose.** To provide information and procedures pertaining to the Nuclear Power Training Program. Other MILPERSMAN articles pertaining to the Nuclear Power Training Program are as follows:

Topic	See MILPERSMAN
Qualification for Assignments	1306-502
Requests for Assignment	1306-504

2. **Policy.** Highly motivated and trained technicians are required to maintain and operate the Navy's nuclear powered submarines and surface ships, and shore based training facilities. To meet those requirements, the Navy has established a nuclear power training program through which qualified volunteers may attain the necessary expertise.

3. **Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (Surface/Submarine)**

a. This program consists of approximately 12 months academic training, followed by approximately 6 months operational and maintenance training at a land-based reactor prototype site.

b. Applicants volunteering for this program should be advised that most of the training will be in a new technical field and is not limited to the professional aspects of any particular rating.

c. Training is divided into the following three major phases:

(1) **Nuclear Field "A" School.** Each candidate is classified into one of three ratings: Electronics Technician (ET), Electricians Mate (EM) or Machinist Mate (MM). Each has a

class "A" school with varying course lengths. These courses are taught at the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston, South Carolina. The courses cover in-rate theory and equipment specific to a Naval nuclear propulsion plant.

(2) **Basic Nuclear Power Course.** This course is 24 weeks long and is taught at the Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston, South Carolina. Students receive a theoretical background in nuclear propulsion technology and other subjects required for the operational training phase which follows.

(3) **Nuclear Propulsion Plant Operator Course.** This 26-week operational training course is conducted at one of the nuclear propulsion reactor prototype plants (Nuclear Power Training Unit) located at Ballston Spa, NY, or Charleston, SC. At the Nuclear Power Training Unit, students gain realistic practical experience by operating the prototype propulsion plant as a member of a watch section, while working with experienced nuclear propulsion plant operators and supervisors.